

REMARKS

The Office Action dated July 12, 2006, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claim 1-84 have been amended to clearly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which is the invention. Claim 85 has been added. No new matter has been added, and no new issues are raised which require further consideration and/or search. Claims 1-85 are submitted for consideration.

Claims 1-84 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-36 of U.S. Patent No. 6,725,036. In response, Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer, disclaiming any portion of the term of U.S. Patent No. 6,725,036 that would extend beyond the term of the U.S. Application No. 09/731,758. Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection is now moot.

Claims 37 and 68 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. According to the Office Action, claims 37 and 68 recite “providing a subscriber identification to the visited network.” However, according to the Office Action, the Abstract and figure 7 disclose providing the subscriber identification from the visited network to the home network. Applicants note that several embodiments are disclosed in the specification. Specifically, Figure 2 and page 13, line 12 through page 15, line 7 disclose that a s-CSCF is resident in the home network and a p-CSCF is resident in the visited network which functions as an

intermediate entity in providing of connectivity for the communications between the storage of the subscriber profiles of access types in the s-CSCF of the home network and the visited network. Thus, Applicants submit that, as disclosed on page 11, lines 17-22 of the current specification, the s-CSCF of the home network transmits a message containing the subscriber identification and an identification of the allocation level of connectivity sought to the visited network. Therefore, Applicants submit that all of the elements of claims 37 and 68 are supported by the specification and request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. According to the Office Action, claim 1 does not recite to which element the identification of the subscriber is sent. Claim 1 has been amended to overcome this rejection. Therefore, Applicants request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-31 and 34-84 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by U.S. Patent 5,742,668 (Pepe). According to the Office Action, provision of identification is implicit in Pepe and as such Pepe teaches all of the elements of claims 1-31 and 34-84. The rejection is traversed as being based on a reference that neither teaches nor suggests the novel combination of features clearly recited in independent claims 1, 34, 37, 68, and 78, and the dependent claims thereon, in addition to newly added claim 85.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2-33 depend, recites a method including sending, from a visited network of a plurality of networks to a home network, an identification of

a subscriber and an access to be provided to the subscriber. The method also includes in response to the identification of the subscriber and access to be provided to the subscriber, storing, in the visited network, a subscriber profile of an authorized access of a plurality of authorized accesses to be provided to the subscriber and controlling access of the subscriber to a network dependent upon a comparison of the access to be provided to the subscriber and the stored subscriber profile having the authorized access of the plurality of authorized accesses. An application level registration message including the identification of the subscriber is generated in response to a request from a subscriber equipment to the visited network and the visited network receiving the request transmits an update location message to the home network for informing the home network of the identification of the subscriber and a particular network at which the subscriber is located.

Claim 34, upon which claims 35-36 depend, recites a system including a home network which stores a plurality of subscriber profiles each defining an access to be provided to a subscriber of a network and a plurality of networks connected to the home network. The system also includes a subscriber equipment connected to a visited one of the plurality of networks through which the subscriber obtains an access to any network. In response to connection of the subscriber equipment to the visited network, an identification of the subscriber and an access to be provided to the subscriber is sent from the visited network to the home network, and a subscriber profile of an authorized access of a plurality of authorized accesses to be provided to the subscriber is stored in one of

the plurality of networks and access of the subscriber to the network is controlled by one of the plurality of networks storing the subscriber profile dependent upon a comparison of the access to be provided to the subscriber and the stored subscriber profile having the authorized access of the plurality of authorized accesses. An application level registration message including the identification of the subscriber is generated in response to a request from a subscriber equipment to the visited network, and the visited network receiving the request transmits an update location message to the home network for informing the home network of the identification of the subscriber and a particular network at which the subscriber is located.

Claim 37, upon which claims 38-67 depend recites a method including during or after the subscriber registers in a network, providing an identification of the subscriber and an access of a plurality of accesses, to a visited network of a plurality of networks from a home network of the subscriber, the access comprising an identification of access from the plurality of accesses to one of the plurality networks in which the subscriber is registered. An application level registration message including the identification of the subscriber is generated in response to a request from a subscriber equipment to the visited network and the visited network receiving the request transmits an update location message to the home network for informing the home network of the identification of the subscriber and a particular network at which the subscriber is located.

Claim 68, upon which claims 69-77 depend, recites method including providing an identification of the subscriber, to a visited network of at least one of a plurality of

networks from a home network. The method also includes in response to the providing of the identification of the subscriber, storing a subscriber profile of an access of a plurality of accesses to be provided to the subscriber in the visited network and using the stored subscriber profile in controlling service provided to the subscriber. An application level registration message including the identification of the subscriber is generated in response to a request from a subscriber equipment to the visited network and the visited network receiving the request transmits an update location message to the home network for informing the home network of the identification of the subscriber and a particular network at which the subscriber is located.

Claim 78, upon which claims 79-84 depend, recites a system including networks in which a subscriber may register and a home network in which a plurality of subscriber profiles are stored, each of the profiles defining an access to be provided to the subscriber while registered in the networks. The system includes a subscriber equipment which is connected to the networks while the subscriber is registered therein. In response to connection of the subscriber equipment to one of the networks at least an identification of the subscriber is provided from a visited network of the networks to the home network. A subscriber profile of an access of a plurality of accesses to be provided to the subscriber by at least one of the networks is stored, and the stored subscriber profile is used in controlling service provided to the subscriber. An application level registration message including the identification of the subscriber is generated in response to a request from a subscriber equipment to the visited network and the visited network

receiving the request transmits an update location message to the home network for informing the home network of the identification of the subscriber and a particular network at which the subscriber is located.

As will be discussed below, the cited prior art reference of Pepe fails to disclose or suggest the elements of the presently pending claims.

Pepe relates to an electronic messaging network. Pepe describes a personal communications interworking (PCI) 40 connected between wireless network 39 and wireline network 29. PCI 40 permits the mobile communications subscriber to send and receive messages between disparate networks, messaging systems and a variety of service providers. Figure 3 of Pepe shows PCI 40 and a PCI database 44 that stores and updates subscriber profiles. Pepe describes that the PCI provides the subscriber with control over the message routing and delivery by the subscriber accessible "subscriber profile" stored in the PCI. The subscriber profile contains subscriber programmed instructions on message receipt, origination and notification. PCI 40 operates as a messaging gateway for providing access to multiple wireline and wireless networks, while using subscriber profile information to control sending and receiving options. PCI 40 allows wireless service providers to integrate the voice messaging, e-mail, and fax message services for one subscriber through a single telephone number. Thus, Pepe describes one phone number that provides a single link between the service provider and the subscriber's voice and data communications lines.

Applicant submits that Pepe simply does not teach or suggest each of the elements recited in presently pending claims. Each of claims 1, 34, 37, 68 and 78, in part, recites wherein an application level registration message including the identification of the subscriber and is generated in response to a request from a subscriber equipment to the visited network and wherein the visited network receiving the request transmits an update location message to the home network for informing the home network of the identification of the subscriber and a particular network at which the subscriber is located. Pepe does not teach or suggest wherein an application level registration message including the identification of the subscriber and is generated in response to a request from a subscriber equipment to the visited network and wherein the visited network receiving the request transmits an update location message to the home network for informing the home network of the identification of the subscriber and a particular network at which the subscriber is located, as recited in claims 1, 34, 37, 68 and 78. Therefore, Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) should be withdrawn because Pepe fails to teach or suggest each feature of claims 1, 34, 37, 68 and 78 and the dependent claims thereon.

Claims 32 and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pepe in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,148,199 to Hoffman. According to the Office Action, Pepe teaches all of the elements of claims 32 and 33 except for the application level registration message. Therefore, the Office Action combined Pepe and Hoffman to yield all of the elements of claims 32 and 33. The rejection is traversed as being based on

references that neither teach nor suggest the novel combination of features clearly recited in independent claims 1, upon which claims 32 and 33 depend.

Claim 1 and Pepe have been discussed above. Hoffman discloses that a typical communications network includes a home location register (HLR) that includes user information, user profiles, feature activation status, and access privileges. When a network equipment receives a request for registration from a communication unit, the network equipment accesses the HLR, finds a corresponding subscriber record and determines what features to activate for the communication unit. The information is transferred to a visitor location register (VLR) which tracks the communication unit's location in the system.

Applicant submits that Hoffman does not cure the deficiencies of Pepe as outlined above. Specifically, Hoffman does not teach or suggest wherein an application level registration message including the identification of the subscriber and is generated in response to a request from a subscriber equipment to the visited network and wherein the visited network receiving the request transmits an update location message to the home network for informing the home network of the identification of the subscriber and a particular network at which the subscriber is located, as recited in claim 1, upon which claims 32 and 33 depend. Therefore, Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) should be withdrawn because neither Pepe nor Hoffman, whether taken singly or combined teaches or suggest each feature of claim 1, and hence dependent claim 32 and 33 thereon.

Claims 1, 34, 37, 68 and 78 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by U.S. Patent 6,745,029 (Lahtinen). According to the Office Action, provisioning of subscriber identification is implicit in Lahtinen and therefore, according to the Office Action, Lahtinen teaches or suggest all of the elements of claims 1, 34, 47, 68 and 78. The rejection is traversed as being based on a reference that neither teaches nor suggests the novel combination of features clearly recited in independent claims 1, 34, 37, 68 and 78, each of which is discussed above.

Lahtinen discloses that a subscriber moving from one network to another will have available all the supplementary network services that the subscriber's user terminal supports. Supplementary services are always associated with a certain amount of data which has to be stored in a permanent subscriber database and transferred to a system visited at a particular time. A method implemented in Lahtinen includes initiating by at least one user terminal the registration in the visited network which includes at least one network-specific supplementary service. The method also includes transferring the data relating to the common services of the home network and the visited network, in connection with the registration, from the subscriber database of the home network for temporary storage to the subscriber database of the visited network. Col. 2, lines 39-46 and Col. 3, lines 17-26.

Applicant submits that Lahtinen simply does not teach or suggest the combination of elements recited in claims 1, 34, 37, 68 and 78. Each of claims 1, 34, 37, 68 and 78 recite wherein an application level registration message including the identification of the

subscriber and is generated in response to a request from a subscriber equipment to the visited network and wherein the visited network receiving the request transmits an update location message to the home network for informing the home network of the identification of the subscriber and a particular network at which the subscriber is located. There is no teaching or suggestion in Lahtinen of wherein an application level registration message including the identification of the subscriber and is generated in response to a request from a subscriber equipment to the visited network and wherein the visited network receiving the request transmits an update location message to the home network for informing the home network of the identification of the subscriber and a particular network at which the subscriber is located. Therefore, Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) should be withdrawn because Lahtinen does not teach or suggest each feature of claims 1, 34, 37, 68 and 78.

Claims 1, 34, 37, 68 and 78 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by U.S. Patent 6,148,199 (Hoffman). According to the Office Action, the comparison feature is implicit in Hoffman. Therefore, according to the Office Action, Hoffman teaches or suggest all of the elements of claims 1, 34, 37, 68 and 78. The rejection is traversed as being based on a reference that neither teaches nor suggests the novel combination of features clearly recited in independent claims 1, 34, 37, 68 and 78, each of which is discussed above.

Applicants submit that Hoffman, as discussed above, does not teach or suggest the combination of elements recited in claims 1, 34, 37, 68 and 78. Each of claims 1, 34, 37,

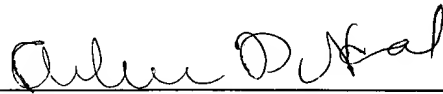
68 and 78, in part, recites wherein an application level registration message including the identification of the subscriber and is generated in response to a request from a subscriber equipment to the visited network and wherein the visited network receiving the request transmits an update location message to the home network for informing the home network of the identification of the subscriber and a particular network at which the subscriber is located. Hoffman does not recite these features. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) should be withdrawn because neither Hoffman does not teach or suggest each feature of claims 1, 34, 37, 68 and 78 and hence, dependent claims 2-33, 35, 36, 38-67, 69-77 and 79-84 thereon.

As noted previously, claims 1-85 recite subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the prior art references cited in the Office Action. It is therefore respectfully requested that all of claims 1-85 be allowed and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Terminal Disclaimer
Additional Claim Fee Transmittal
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